

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2943

February 10, 2010

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits the use of a hand held mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle, except for when a hands-free device is being used. Creates a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine only of \$50.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue – \$1,080,500

Increase State Expenditures – \$21,000/One-Time

Increase Local Revenue – \$56,900

Increase Local Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Safety (DOS), there are approximately 4,333,000 licensed drivers in Tennessee.
- Based on information provided by DOS, the number of licensed drivers who own a mobile phone cannot be reasonably determined. It is estimated approximately 3,033,100 licensed drivers in the state own a mobile telephone. DOS estimates that at least one percent or 30,331 licensed drivers will be cited for a violation each year.
- The number of drivers remains constant in subsequent fiscal years.
- Twenty-five percent will not pay the fine due to indigence.
- Local courts retain a five percent clerk commission.
- Approximately \$1,137,400 in fines will be collected (30,331 offenders x \$50 x 75%). Local court clerk commissions will increase local revenue by \$56,900 (\$1,137,400 x 5%). State revenue will increase by \$1,080,500 (\$1,137,400 x 95%).
- According to the Department of Safety, six computer program changes would be necessary, resulting in a one-time cost of \$21,000 (6 program changes x \$3,500 per change).

- Any increase to local government expenditures for enforcement is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

James W. White, Executive Director

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